



2026 SC MAHI SERIES RULES

1. Fish days will run from Monday, May 4, 2026 through Friday, May 29, 2026.
2. Teams can pick 2 days to fish. Teams can weigh two Mahi each day for a total of 4 Mahi and the 2 smallest fished will be dropped. No mutilated Mahi will be weighed.
3. The South Carolina Mahi Series champion will be determined by the boat with the heaviest two fish aggregate weight. A single fish can win if it has the most weight overall.
4. A captain may only register one boat, however crews can fish on other boats during the Series.
5. The Captain must declare his boats' fishing day no later than 9:00PM the day before. Notification of a fish day must be done by emailing marc@scwahooseries.com. **Required Information: Give your boat name & number, marina or boat landing, and Sound/Inlet you are leaving and returning.**
6. You may un-declare a fish day, as long as no lines were deployed, by texting Marc (843) 298-0377 with a cell phone only, NOT A SAT PHONE, no later than 7am the morning of the fish day.
7. On a declared fish day teams can not leave the dock or ramp prior to 12 midnight. Tournament fishing hours, lines in no earlier than 6:00 am. Lines out no later that 5:00 pm.
8. **Check-In**
Same Day Weigh-In: Teams must be at the fuel dock no later than 5pm. If you decide to weigh-in on the same day you fish, you must check-in including required photos by texting Marc at 843-298-0377, *with a cell phone only* prior to arriving at the marina.
Final Check-In: No later than 7:30pm the day you fish by texting Marc at 843-298-0377 including all required photos with a cell phone only, NOT A SAT PHONE or In Reach.
9. During the Series all fish must be weighed in at Hilton Head Harbour Marina, Hilton Head Island, SC, Tolers Cove Marina, Mt. Pleasant, SC, Georgetown Landing Marina, Georgetown, SC, The Marina At Edisto, Edisto Island, SC or Crazy Sister Marina, Murrells Inlet, SC no later than 11:00 am the day after you fish. Teams fishing the last day, Friday, May 30, 2025 have to weigh in the same day, and must be at the official scale location by 5pm.
10. Any tie will be broken by the boat with the heaviest Mahi.
11. Inlet Boundaries: Little River Inlet, SC to St. Simons Island Inlet, GA.
12. Fish must be caught by rod and reel. No spear guns or harpoons allowed. No electric reels are permitted for trolling any hooked bait or lure. Electric reels can be used for hookless teasers.
13. **A photo must be taken of the fish you want to weigh-in with your tournament boat number before you ice it down. The photo must include members of the fishing team. Photos of fish in the fish box are not acceptable. The picture must be text to Marc at 843-298-0377 upon check-in.**
14. **Check-Out**
A photo of the boats GPS screen must be taken prior to leaving the inlet, and submitted as part of your check-in. Your GPS screen must include the following information: time, date, ships coordinates.
15. You may substitute a boat one time if there is a mechanical issue, boat sale or unforeseen circumstance. The substitute boat must not be registered in the tournament. If the substitution is due to mechanical, boat sale or unforeseen circumstances, and the boat will not be ready for the remainder of the series, you must complete the series in the substitute boat, you can not switch boats again. Chartering a boat is not allowed.
16. Boats are not allowed to come together for any reason during tournament fishing hours. Nothing shall be passed from/to a boat whether floated, thrown or shot from a cannon.

17. During your fishing day your boat must make it to and from your starting destination under your own power.
18. All registered boats and participants must comply with SC State and Federal regulations including but not limited to fishing license, permits, boat registrations, safety equipment and adequate liability insurance is required.
19. No culling of dead fish allowed in the SC Mahi Series.
20. Teams are subject to random boat inspections, prior to departure, or upon return from a series fish day.
21. Teams are required to save their GPS track from their declared fish day, until 1pm, the day after their declared fish day.
22. Teams are not permitted to alter or attempt to alter the weight of their fish.
23. A formal protest, or other circumstances may result in the need to administer Polygraph Test(s). All tournament participants are subject to Polygraph Test(s). The vessel Owner or Authorized crew member must sign the "Polygraph Acknowledgment Waiver" as a part of their 2026 SC Mahi Series registration form. Polygraph Test result(s) are final.
24. Any protest filed must be submitted as a formal written complaint, including details such as time, date, location and any other pertinent information, to the SC Mahi Series accompanied by a \$700 cash only fee. If the protest is upheld the fee will be returned. If the protest is not upheld the tournament retains the fee. Protest must be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the scale closes (11:30pm) for the fish day you are protesting. And, on the final fish day, May 29, 2026 any protests must be submitted by 5:30pm.
25. The Rules Committee has the sole right to interpret the rules, and address issues not covered in the rules. All decisions made by the committee are final.
26. The tournament Director has the right to refuse any entry.
27. This is a Captains Choice Tournament. Each Captain is solely responsible for the safety of his or her vessel, crew, and guest at all times during the SC Mahi Series. Captains are responsible for heeding any weather warnings and severe weather warnings that may affect his or her three SC Mahi Series fish days as Safety is paramount. It is up to each Captain to decide whether his or her vessel is seaworthy for the sea conditions of all three SC Mahi Series fishing days. Captains are responsible for supplying a flight plan for all three of his or her SC Mahi Series fish days with a family member, or trusted individual.
28. A small craft advisory: if a small craft advisory is in affect from 5am on, for a fish day, that fish day is canceled. However, we have several inlets within our tournament boundary, and therefore several NOAA marine forecast zones. The cancelation of a fish day will be limited to the zone or zones that have a small craft advisory in affect at 5am. If on that same day, other NOAA marine forecast zones within the tournament boundary do not have a small craft advisory in effect teams may fish out of those zones.
29. Any violation of the these rules are subject to disqualification from the tournament, and forfeiture of all winnings and entry fees.
30. There are no refunds after registration is closed.

Pioneer

BOATS